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Letter dated 28 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 28 May 2002 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the fact that the United States of America and the United Kingdom are maintaining the military aggression in which they have been engaged against Iraq since 1991 by having their aircraft bomb numerous military and civilian sites in the country.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

02-40269 (E) 290502 290502

Annex to the letter dated 28 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to inform you that the United States of America and the United Kingdom have recently stepped up the military aggression against the Republic of Iraq that they have maintained since 1991.

On 20 May 2002, United States and British aircraft fired missiles at civilian and military sites in Muthanna Governorate in southern Iraq, wounding a number of citizens and damaging civilian and military installations.

On 23 May 2002, United States and British aircraft bombed civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar Governorate, killing two citizens, wounding two others and damaging civilian and military installations.

On 24 May 2002, United States and British aircraft fired missiles at civilian and military sites in Dhi Qar Governorate, wounding 16 citizens and damaging civilian and military installations.

The enforcement by the United States and the United Kingdom of the two no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq constitutes military aggression and systematic State terrorism against an entire people. This requires that the countries and institutions that go to make up the international community should take the measures required in accordance with international law in order to halt this aggression and hold the aggressors answerable for it so as to give effect to the foremost purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, namely the maintenance of international peace and security, the suppression of acts of aggression and the commitment to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

For the international community to remain silent at a crime that has been going on since 1991 would be an incentive to the arrogant aggressor to commit further acts of aggression against independent States and thus to the dominance of the law of the jungle in international relations.

We affirm that the army and people of Iraq shall continue to exercise the right to legitimate self-defence against such hostile, terrorist and barbaric actions, and, through you, we urge the international community to endeavour to halt this aggression and bring its perpetrators to account.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq